

Of the chief Palearctic families the particulars, furnished by Mr. Dresser, are as follows :—

	Species.		Species.
Turdinæ	45	Nocturnal Raptores	23
Saxicolinæ	44	Diurnal Raptores	58
Sylviniæ.....	96	Anatidæ	51
Paridæ & Sittidæ	51	Gallinæ	41
Motacillidæ, Laniidæ, & Muscicapidæ	80	Charadriidæ	80
Fringillidæ	116	Laridæ & Stercorariidæ ..	42
Alaudidæ	34	Tubinares, Alcæ, & Pygo- podes	32
Picidæ	26		

Owens College is indeed to be congratulated upon possessing so valuable a collection.

LIII.—*Obituary.*

JOHN CORDEAUX, F. B. SIMSON, and E. M. H. RIDDELL.

JOHN CORDEAUX, who died at his house at Great Cotes, Lincolnshire, on August 1st, in his sixty-ninth year, was the son of the Rev. John Cordeaux, M.A., and was born at Foston Rectory, Leicestershire, on February 27th, 1831. In youth some of his vacations were passed in the neighbourhood of Louth, and this perhaps fostered a taste for the marshlands and coast of Lincolnshire, and led to his taking up his abode at Great Cotes when quite a young man. A frequent contributor to the 'Zoologist,' 'Naturalist,' 'Field,' &c., the year 1873 saw the publication of 'The Birds of the Humber District,' an admirable little book, full of the results of personal observations. A supplement, up to date, was published shortly before his death. In the autumn of 1874 he made his first visit to Heligoland, and was the earliest British ornithologist to make known, from personal experience, the extensive collection formed by the late Heinrich Gätke. A description of this visit appeared in 'The Ibis' for 1875 (pp. 172-188), and his acquaintance with Gätke stimulated his previous interest in the migration of

birds to such an extent that in 1879 he joined Mr. Harvie-Brown in a scheme for obtaining reports on the subject from the keepers of lighthouses and lightships on the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland. At the Meeting of the British Association at Swansea in 1880 he was appointed Secretary of a Committee (with a small grant) to carry out this plan, and for nine years he gave gratuitously an enormous amount of labour—not unattended by expense—to this undertaking. Its remarkable success has been shown in the 'Digest of the Observations' made by Mr. W. Eagle Clarke, presented to the British Association at Liverpool in 1896, and its influence upon the study of migration can hardly be overrated.

In addition to ornithology, Cordeaux possessed a considerable knowledge of other branches of zoology as well as of botany, while a strong appreciation of the poetry of nature lent a grace to his writings. He was a good sportsman and a fine specimen of the country gentleman, as well as a most genial companion; and by his death, not only science, but also those who were privileged to know him as a friend, have sustained a very serious loss.

Mr. FRANK B. SIMSON, who died on the 28th of last May, was elected a Member of the B. O. U. in 1881. He was one of the old school of sportsmen-naturalists, a friend of Jerdon and of Blyth, and he shared their labours; but he wrote little in his own name. It might have been expected that he would have contributed to 'Stray Feathers,' but his name does not appear in any index, and the only paper we can find in 'The Ibis' is on the Pink-headed Duck (*Anas caryophyllacea*) in 1884, pp. 271-275. In 1886 he produced a work entitled 'Notes on Sport in Eastern Bengal.'

We have also heard, with regret, of the death of Mr. EDWARD MITFORD H. RIDDELL, of 9 Minster Yard, Lincoln. He was elected a Member of the B. O. U. in 1898.